**Extra Credit Thanksgiving Break Assignment**

Edgar Alan Poe’s “The Pit and the Pendulum”

1. Read the short story “The Pit and the Pendulum” on page 255 of your literature book.
2. In MLA format, type a response to the following prompt:

“Although ‘The Pit and the Pendulum’ appears to be a simple horror story, it is likely that Poe intended it to be read **symbolically** as the story of a man who dies and almost loses his soul in the pit of hell but is saved at the end by God. This kind of allegorical reading elevates the story, making it more meaningful and emotionally impactful for the reader.”

-your English teacher

**Explain your English teacher’s argument and discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with his/her analysis. Support your position, and provide textual evidence with elaboration.**

Print and turn in your essay or submit to Ms. Clark-Cadwell AND Ms. Cancino by Monday, November 30th for up to 50 extra credit points.